

12/6/2018

The Honorable Ajit Pai, Chairman  
The Honorable Michael O’Rielly, Commissioner  
The Honorable Brendan Carr, Commissioner  
The Honorable Jessica Rosenworcel, Commissioner

Chairman  
Federal Communications Commission  
455 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Southwest  
Washington, DC, 20544

Dear Chairman Pai,

I am writing to support the Comments of the Cable Act Preservation Alliance (“CAPA”) and to oppose the proposals and tentative conclusions set forth in the FCC’s September 25 Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making in *Implementation of Section 621(a)(1) of the Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984 as Amended by the Cable Television Consumer Protection and Competition Act of 1992*, MB Docket 05- 311.

Close to five years ago I started a television program at my local Community Access TV center called “Rita’s Rescues”. This series showcases the efforts of local animal rescue groups and the people who give of their time to make these operations a success. We also use the television program to educate the public as the importance of adoption of animals in need as opposed to shopping at “puppy farms” and the like. Often the program speaks about the needs of the animal after adoption, its care and maintenance, to ensure a happy owner and home. The show brings in experts in both pet adoption and pet care to share their knowledge with our home audience. Community Access TV through the TBNK (Telecommunications Board of NKY) gives us the venue, the training and the voice to reach our community with these important issues.

Also, I have used Community Access TV to further my mission with Mental Health Awareness and Education through videos that showcase both mental health professionals as well as the consumers to help them gain access to existing local, state and federal assistance programs. Working in conjunction with MHA (Mental Health America), NAMI (National Alliance for the Mentally Ill), SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration), the programs produced have garnered national attention and won several media awards. These programs continue to air on our local Community Access TV stations and continue to be relevant within our community.

Promoting such diversity of views and information through local PEG programming was one of congress’ specific stated intents of the Cable Act. The FCC’s proposed FNPRM goes against this stated intent, and would force communities to choose between franchise fees and PEG channels, which would cripple and very likely eliminate the PEG channels in most communities across the country, since most cities will not be able to afford the loss in fees. The loss of franchise fees would also eliminate the main source of operational funding for PEG channels in most

communities. This has never been the way the law worked for decades and was never the intent of the Act.

We appreciate your consideration and urge the FCC to protect PEG channels and funding in our community and others by choosing not to adopt the Further Notice of Proposed Rule Making.

Sincerely,

Rita Brooks